

The Colored American

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We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send for instructions.

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GIVE US AN EQUAL CHANCE.

The Washington Post is at it again. Its leader of the 12th instant advises the white people to let the Negro alone and predicts all kinds of prosperity for the race as a result. Here is its text—a letter reproduced from a Philadelphia paper:

"Sir:—I am a colored man, a mechanic by trade. There is nothing in the line of a house in wood that I cannot make. I can build all the stairs, windows, make the sashes, blinds, and doors. I can build a house from the ground up and turn the keys over to the owner completed. I can draw the plans, make the blue prints, make the specifications, and give estimates. Yet I am debarred from employment on account of my color. The prejudice in this city is strong against me, much stronger than in the place I came from. No one wants me because I am a colored man. Why is this? I am thirty-seven years old. I drew the plans of the colored church on Tasker St., above Twentieth; my name is on the corner-stone. I built the State Colored College of Orangeburg, S. C., and I have built cottages in Orangeburg, and for the mayor of Beaufort, S. C., but still I am debarred from employment in Philadelphia.

SAMUEL H. BLYTHEWOOD."

It would seem that the advice of the Washington luminary has been anticipated by the Philadelphia trades unions, but the prosperity is not in evidence.

The touching and truthful plaint of Mr. Blythewood should bring the blush of shame to the face of every white man in the country, but the Post qualifies its own advice by insisting that the Negro shall confine his activities to the South, gravely assuring him that if he does come to the North he will be disappointed in his ambition to dine with the mayor of a city. Could puerility of mind and weakness of logic be more conspicuously exemplified?

White men welcome to our shores emigration from all countries, our great railroads and shipping interests are largely emigration agents both for our Eastern cities and our great

prairies of the West. These new comers are sought in every direction of the land without thought of their powers of assimilation or of the country's ability to absorb them into the body politic, but the Negro must be limited to one section of the country and then left severely alone and neither gratitude, nor memory, nor fairness, nor justice, can see the rank inhumanity of such a course, or the brutality of the suggestion.

The editor of the Post, like all other empirics, resolutely declines to take his own medicine. He is of the class which is at once and altogether responsible for the intemperate utterances of a Hayes, and for the deep-seated sense of injustice wide spread among us, and he should set a good example and let the Negro alone or study the situation more profoundly before essaying the role of Adviser-General-in-Chief to the United States, and all mankind in general.

The passage of the Jim Crow bill will be a great advertisement for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

JIM CROW IN MISSOURI.

Missouri is a great and imperial state. She has given to the history of the nation many proud names.—Benton, the statesman; Frank Blair, the soldier, and the lesser lights in statesmanship; and in the science of war,—Carl Schurz and Franz Sigel, have been names to conjure with. But the later epochs of her comparative history have few individualities to which she may point with pride. Once she was leader. While the country was in the throes of rebellion her high record and strategic position as a border state gave her eminent vantage ground. But alas! She is no longer in the forefront. She is but a follower. Instead of setting the pace for other commonwealths she is content to imitate their vices while blind to their redeeming traits.

She has distinguished herself in this regard. Looking for cheap glory or perhaps for revenue, her legislators have attempted to pass one of the greatly odious Jim Crow laws. We say her "legislators" advisedly. They object to the proposition, and Representative Murphy, of St. Louis, was able to make the railroad committee of the lower house see the propriety of a public discussion of the proposition. When it was announced that the subject would be ventilated and that the Negroes would be given full opportunity to assist at the obsequies of the iniquity, the two proponents took to the tall timber.

The fact is the originator of this proposition was very, very dumb, and went to bed one night with a fatuous dream that he would wake up next morning a famous man. He did not take into his inner comprehension, or we suspect he did not know of our giants in Missouri, like Farmer, Roberts or Curtis, Phil. Murray, Rev. Cole, Arthur Langston, Dave Gordon, and Hutchings Inge, who would have ground him to the infinitesimal infusoria.

Then some of her distinguished and law-abiding citizens have just had a Negro whipping bee at Fayette—but as Kipling says—that is another story.

The colored press of Texas is almost a unit in favor of the teachings of Dr. Booker T. Washington; and are landing heavily on his critics.

OLD CERBERUS

We trust the decent white men of the South have taken note of the disgusting utterances of their most radical exponent, the unspeakable Tillman, of South Carolina, made in a speech delivered in New York city, Saturday night. Old Cerberus gravely informed his listeners that further efforts to help the black man would result in making the southern states half mulatto in a very short time.

There is your chosen representative, successor to a long line of chevaliers, without fear and without reproach, whom South Carolina has dedicated to the countries service in the years agone. Gaze on him! You will be proud of him to the full measure of the extent to which he truly represents your sentiment.

The Negro abhors such suggestions. If white men will not rise up, de-

nounce this filthy mind and make him the Ishmaelite he deserves to be, the Negro race, however impotent to apply the sanctions of its condemnation, will place on record its contempt for this wretch who thus wantonly assails the virtue of every Southern white woman, and ascribes to them the vices which have hitherto only distinguished the white men of the South. It is a trite adage that to the pure all things are pure. The converse of this proposition is also startlingly true.

Too often the Negro is his own worst enemy.

SECRETARY CORTELYOU.

In promoting the Hon. George B. Cortelyou to be the first secretary of Commerce and Labor, the President is consistent in carrying out his idea of Civil Service reform. Mr. Cortelyou has worked his way up to the top round through the genius he has put into his work; and the President is to be congratulated on this most excellent selection. As a member of the Civil Service board, President Roosevelt by his fairness and impartiality made it possible for hundreds of educated young colored men in the South, to secure positions in the departments at Washington, through Civil Service examinations. This habit of consistency and fair dealing seems to be a part of his nature. His success today as President of the United States, as a leader of his party, and his popularity as a man, is due very largely to his straight-forwardness; and the feeling which he inspires in all men that he will do what is right as his Maker gives him the power to see the right. The selection of Mr. Cortelyou is a wise one and will give general satisfaction.

Minister W. F. Powell, of Port-Au Prince, Hayti, through his matchless handling of diplomatic cases, that have been coming before him of late, is winning new laurels.

If you are not a subscriber to The Colored American, but desire to obtain a copy of it, go to your nearest news dealer and ask for it; if the dealer does not handle it have him to get it for you and insist on his getting it. You will help The Colored American in this way.

The enemies of the movers of the ex-slave pension scheme are having their inning, and are delivering some telling blows against the bill introduced by Senator Hanna.

The hayseeds of the Missouri legislature, who want to pass the Jim Crow car bill, evidently forget that The Louisiana Purchase Exposition is to come off next year in St. Louis.

The Hon. C. H. Payne, whose portrait and sketch appeared in the last issue of The Colored American, has been appointed U. S. Consul to St. Thomas, West Indies, to succeed the Rev. M. Van Horne.

President Roosevelt has decided to stand by Dr. Crum, though his confirmation for Collector of Customs at Charleston, S. C. was defeated. Dr. Crum will be made a recess appointee and will retain his office and draw the salary. Hip, Hip, Hurrah! for President Roosevelt.

The old man eloquent, Rt. Rev. H. M. Turner, Senior Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, writes a letter, which appears in this issue of The Colored American. He is an enthusiastic emigrationist, and believes that Africa is designed to be the future home of the American Negro. The Bishop is as vigorous and as sound mentally and physically as he was twenty-five years ago; and has the happy faculty of going directly to the heart of any subject he takes up. His letter is a strong presentation of his case.

Mr. Laban Morgan, editor of The Piedmont Indicator, is in the city, and paid our sanctum a pleasant visit.

Prof. J. A. Lankford, supervising architect and builder for the Grand

United Order of True Reformers, left the city this week for a visit to Atlanta, Georgia. He is related to Bishop Turner by marriage, and will be the guest of the learned prelate during his sojourn in the Gate City.

MR. AND MRS. WILSON ENTERTAINED AT WILSON, NORTH CAROLINA.

Goldsboro, N. C., Special.—The handsome residence of Mr. Sam Vick was brilliantly lighted on last Friday night. The parlors and dining room were most beautifully decorated with feathery ferns, trailing smilax hanging here and there, palm plants and carnations. Hearts, being the subject of all the artificial decorations, as well as the principal feature in the games, brought vividly to our minds the good St. Valentine of old. The prizes were won by Dr. O. L. W. Smith, ex-minister to Liberia, and Mr. Paul Washington, of Boston. Covers were laid for thirty. The table was tastefully arranged, and with the shaded light effect was a most pleasing sight. The affair was one of the most delightful of the season. Mrs. Vick is a charming hostess, and Mr. Vick is an ideal host. The out-of-town guests were: Mrs. M. E. Dortch, Miss Poca Scott and Miss Julia A. Amee, of Goldsboro, North Carolina; and Mr. Paul Washington, of Boston, Miss Geneva Battle, and Miss Sarah Dortch assisted Mrs. Vick in receiving. Elegant refreshments were served.

JULIET.

A week ago last Thursday evening, Mr. L. McTynne Yarborough, of 1225 New York Avenue, tendered a complimentary dinner to Prof. W. H. Ferris, of Rhode Island. The evenings entertainment consisted of card playing, music, (instrumental and vocal), discussion of live topics, after which the guests repaired to the dining rooms, where a tempting menu was spread. After cigars were passed, Mr. Yarborough acted as toastmaster, and presided over the ceremonies. Short speeches were made by all present, with an eloquent response by Prof. Ferris. Among those present were: Prof. Henry F. Bailey, Theodore Green, Thomas A. Johnson, W. T. Houston, W. T. Menard, R. W. Thompson, A. W. Scott, S. H. Williamson, Albert Bradford, Wm. M. Wilson and W. T. Valentine. Mr. Yarborough came to Washington from Norwick, Conn., endorsed by some of the best citizens of the place, both colored and white. He sings in the choir of St. Luke's Church, and is a member of the Metropole Club.

Don't forget to exchange your ticket for the Hackley Recital. Diagram of seats at the office of the Record, after 3 o'clock Friday, the 20th. Come early and pick out a choice seat.

Miss E. Meta Pelham, of Detroit, Mich., is the guest of her brother, Mr. Robert Pelham, Jr., 2230 6th street northwest.

The Colored American is planning to inaugurate a Young Folks Column, and will be pleased to hear from mothers and children with suggestions.

The Washington Assemblé gave a banquet at Gray's Cafe, on M. Street, last Wednesday evening. It was a most pleasant affair. Mr. Lewis Meyer is President.

One of the most enjoyable social events of the last week was a dance, last Friday night, at 903 9th street, northeast, given by Miss Marion T. Scott, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. E. D. Scott. Mrs. Scott being sick, her friend Mrs. Paul Bray chaperoned the young people.

It has been suggested that some of the enterprising "literary" presidents, arrange with the Pen and Pencil Club, or Messrs. Pelham and Gray, for a reproduction of the literary features of their banquet, for the benefit of a large number of ladies who would like to see and hear it.